



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## September 16 2009 Meeting Minutes

### Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes – Final September 16, 2009

**Present:** Marlissa Briggett, Christine Carney, Vice Chair Vita Cohen, Stacy Davison, Chair Nick Minton, Judson Pierce, Marlene Schultz, Nancy Sweeney

**Absent:** Sheri Baron, Jorge Loayza, Bill Shea, Nancy Rhoads

**Guest:** Officer James Smith, Arlington Police Department

**Open Forum** – Officer James Smith joined our meeting tonight to discuss a few reports that he distributed for the commissioners to review regarding recent complaints on Old Colony Lane and Grove Street and a graffiti incident on the Minuteman Bike Path. After much discussion Commissioner Davison suggested referring these issues to the ADL. Officer Smith asked the commissioners to discuss these issues and give him a report at a later time.

**Review of September Minutes** – Motion was made and approved to accept the September minutes as amended – with three abstentions.

**Networks and Coalitions** –  
No report this month.

**Incidents and Complaints** –  
Regarding the incidents referred to in the Open Forum Commissioner Cohen suggested drafting a letter to our Rapid Response network making people aware of racism and its appearances and what's happening in town. Commissioners Carney and Schultz suggested resending the article on "who we are" to the Arlington Advocate for republication.

**Subcommittee Reports** –  
**Dialogues**

**Marriage Equality Dialogue** – the Dialogue entitled: "*Five Years of Legalized Gay Marriage in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*," scheduled for this Thursday is all set.

Chair Minton will notify Mr. Konig that he has permission to sell videos on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made and accepted for payment of a \$75 fee to the First Baptist Church for the November 12<sup>th</sup> dialogue. Commissioner Davison distributed a flyer for review, is planning to use a PDF file to invite parents and will work with the APD in providing book supplies for this dialogue.

The sub-committee will make a proposal for a dialogue on The Separation of Church and State for after the first of the year.

**Schools** – Commission Chair Minton invited the Superintendent of the Arlington Schools to come to our October or November meeting.

**Policies and Procedures** – Commissioners Cohen and Schultz will work on clarifying some unenforced rules in our Policies and Procedures regarding the sale of goods at a dialogue.

**Rapid Response/Publicity** – the update of information is still a work in progress

**Other Business –**

**Bhai'i article** - Commissioner Pierce reviewed his article with the commissioners and will submit it to the Arlington Advocate for publication.

**Town Day** – Commissioner Carney has made a schedule and Commissioner Davison will set up table and work with other commissioners in planning the day.

**Human Rights Commission Vacancy** – Chair Minton will call Town Moderator, Attorney John Leone to discuss the appointment of a new commissioner.

**Budget** – regarding a budget notice from Christine Sharkey – decision made to leave the budget at \$4500.

Motion to adjourn was made and approved.

*Submitted by:*

*Marylynn Carnell*

*Staff Assistant*